

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MCT-01 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 /086 W

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R 071347Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9485

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 16841

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG XF

SUBJECT: PLO LEADERS ASSEMBLING IN CAIRO

1. DURING NEXT SEVERAL DAYS, SEVERAL SENIOR PLO LEADERS WILL BE ARRIVING IN CAIRO FOR "VERY IMPORTANT" TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP. DAILIES DECEMBER 7 REPORT THAT ARAFAT DUE SHORTLY, SUPPOSEDLY TO DISCUSS WITH GOE RESULTS OF PLO CONSULTATIONS IN BELGRADE AND BUCHAREST CONCERNING RESUMPTION OF MEPC. ABU IYAD (SALAH KHALAF) ALSO REPORTEDLY ARRIVING (AHRAM STATES HE ARRIVED DECEMBER 6) ON FIRST REPORTED FORAY OUTSIDE OF LEBANON IN OVER 18 MONTHS. IN ADDITION, TELEVISED PANEL DISCUSSION ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 8 SLATED TO INCLUDE PLO POLITICAL DEPT CHIEF QADDUMI, SHAFIQ AL-HUT (HEAD OF PLO OFFICE IN BEIRUT), AND

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GAMAL SURANI (CHIEF OF CAIRO PLO OFFICE). PEOPLES ASSEMBLY SPEAKER MAR'I WILL CHAIR DISCUSSIONS ON PALESTINE.

2. COMMENT: INFLUX OF PLO LEADERS MAY COINCIDE WITH VISIT TO CAIRO OF SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD, NOW SCHEDULED TO BEGIN DECEMBER 11. FACT THAT ABU IYAD HAS CHOSEN PRESENT TIME FOR ONE OF HIS INFREQUENT TRIPS SUGGESTS THAT HARD-LINERS AMONG PLO LEADERSHIP WISH TO HAVE THEIR VIEWPOINT REPRESENTED WHEN SADAT AND ASAD START APPLYING PRESSURE FOR PLO CONCESSIONS TO FACILITATE RECONVENING MEPC PERHAPS THROUGH SPEEDY CONVENING OF PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL.
EILTS

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